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DOOM 2099

THE DEATH OF
RADIAN!



DIRECT EDITION

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THE CHIN SHAN
SPACE PLATFORM.

SAVOR
THIS MOMENT, MY
COMPANIONS, FOR IT
IS ONE OF HISTORICAL
SINGULARITY.

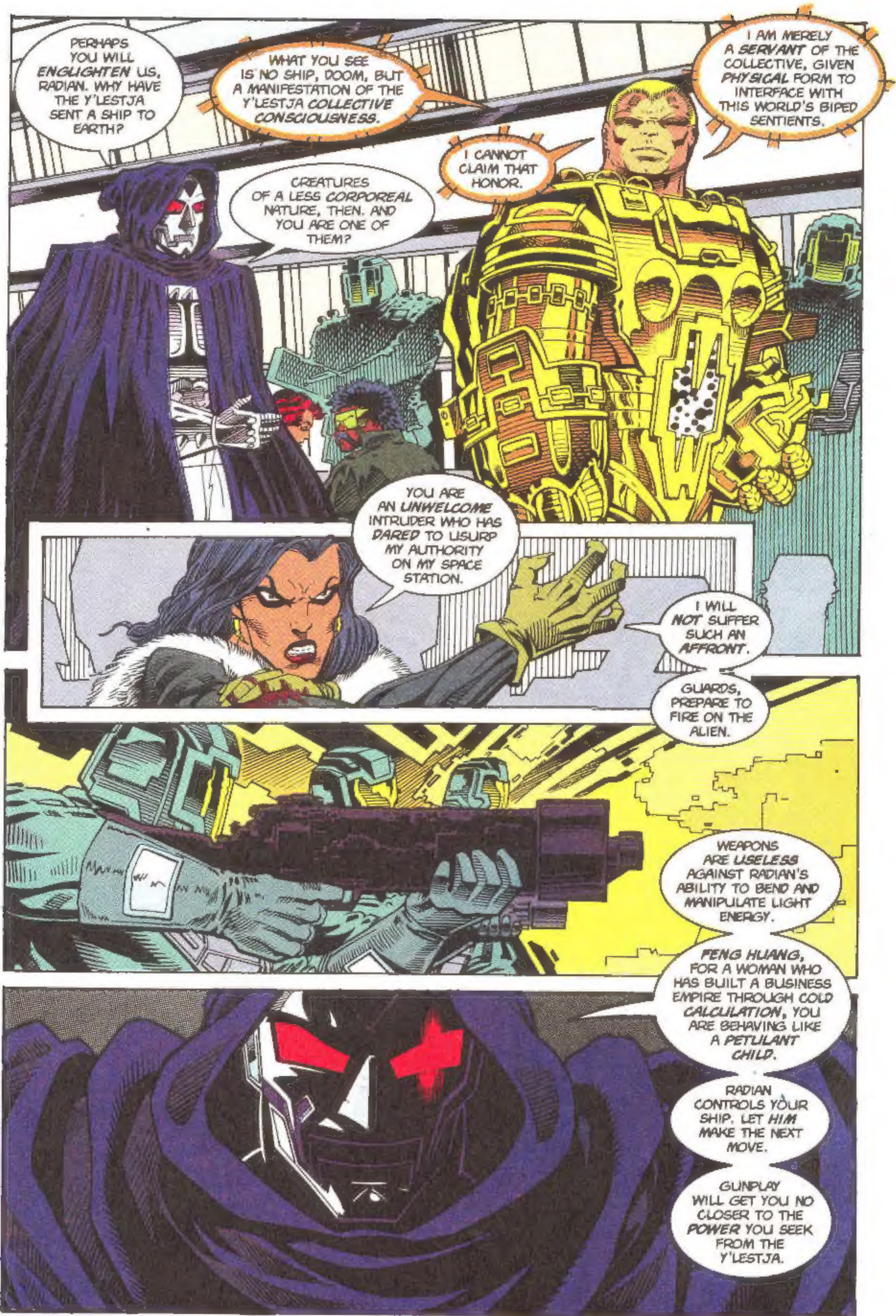
WE WITNESS
THE FIRST
CONTACT BETWEEN
MANKIND AND THE
Y'LESTJAI

AND NOW
WE DISCOVER
WHETHER THIS
MYSTERIOUS RACE
COMES WITH PEACEFUL
OR HOSTILE
INTENT!

STAN LEE PRESENTS:

COMMUNION

AN EXPLOSION OF COSMIC REVELATION
ILLUMINATED AND INTERPRETED BY
JOHN FRANCIS MOORE - WRITER
PAT BRODERICK - PENCILER
JOHN NYBERG - INKER
JOHN COSTANZA - LETTERER
CHRISTIE SCHEELE - COLORIST
JOEY CAVALIERI - GROUND CONTROL
TOM DEFALCO - MASTER OF THE UNIVERSE



PERHAPS YOU WILL ENLIGHTEN US, RADIAN. WHY HAVE THE Y'LESTJA SENT A SHIP TO EARTH?

WHAT YOU SEE IS NO SHIP, DOOM, BUT A MANIFESTATION OF THE Y'LESTJA COLLECTIVE CONSCIOUSNESS.

I AM MERELY A SERVANT OF THE COLLECTIVE, GIVEN PHYSICAL FORM TO INTERFACE WITH THIS WORLD'S BIPED SENTIENTS.

I CANNOT CLAIM THAT HONOR.

CREATURES OF A LESS CORPOREAL NATURE, THEN. AND YOU ARE ONE OF THEM?

YOU ARE AN UNWELCOME INTRUDER WHO HAS DARED TO USURP MY AUTHORITY ON MY SPACE STATION.

I WILL NOT SUFFER SUCH AN AFFRONT.

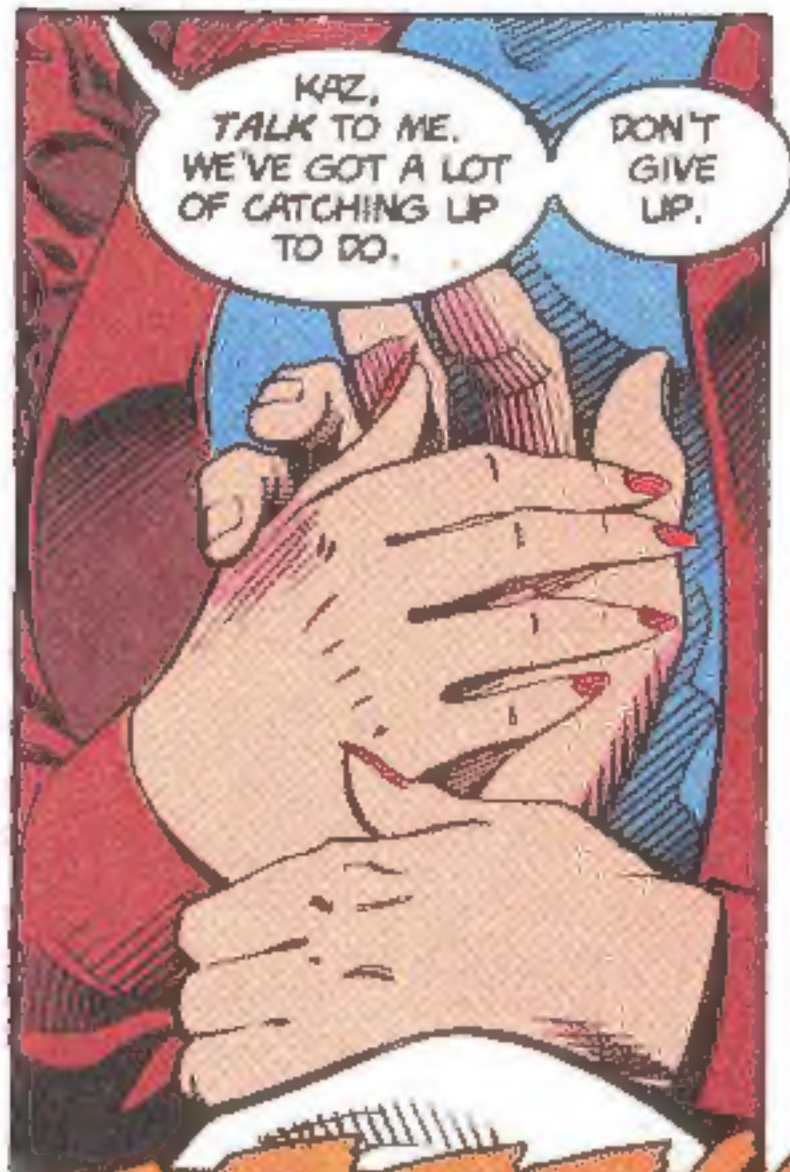
GUARDS, PREPARE TO FIRE ON THE ALIEN.

WEAPONS ARE USELESS AGAINST RADIAN'S ABILITY TO BEND AND MANIPULATE LIGHT ENERGY.

FENG HUANG, FOR A WOMAN WHO HAS BUILT A BUSINESS EMPIRE THROUGH COLD CALCULATION, YOU ARE BEHAVING LIKE A PETULANT CHILD.

RADIAN CONTROLS YOUR SHIP. LET HIM MAKE THE NEXT MOVE.

GUNPLAY WILL GET YOU NO CLOSER TO THE POWER YOU SEEK FROM THE Y'LESTJA.



KAZ,
TALK TO ME.
WE'VE GOT A LOT
OF CATCHING UP
TO DO.

DON'T
GIVE
UP.



FORTUNE,
SOMETHING'S
HAPPENING TO
HIM!

WHAT...



BLESSED
MOTHER.



THE
TIME IS AT
HAND.

THE
CEREMONY OF
COMMUNION
BEGINS.

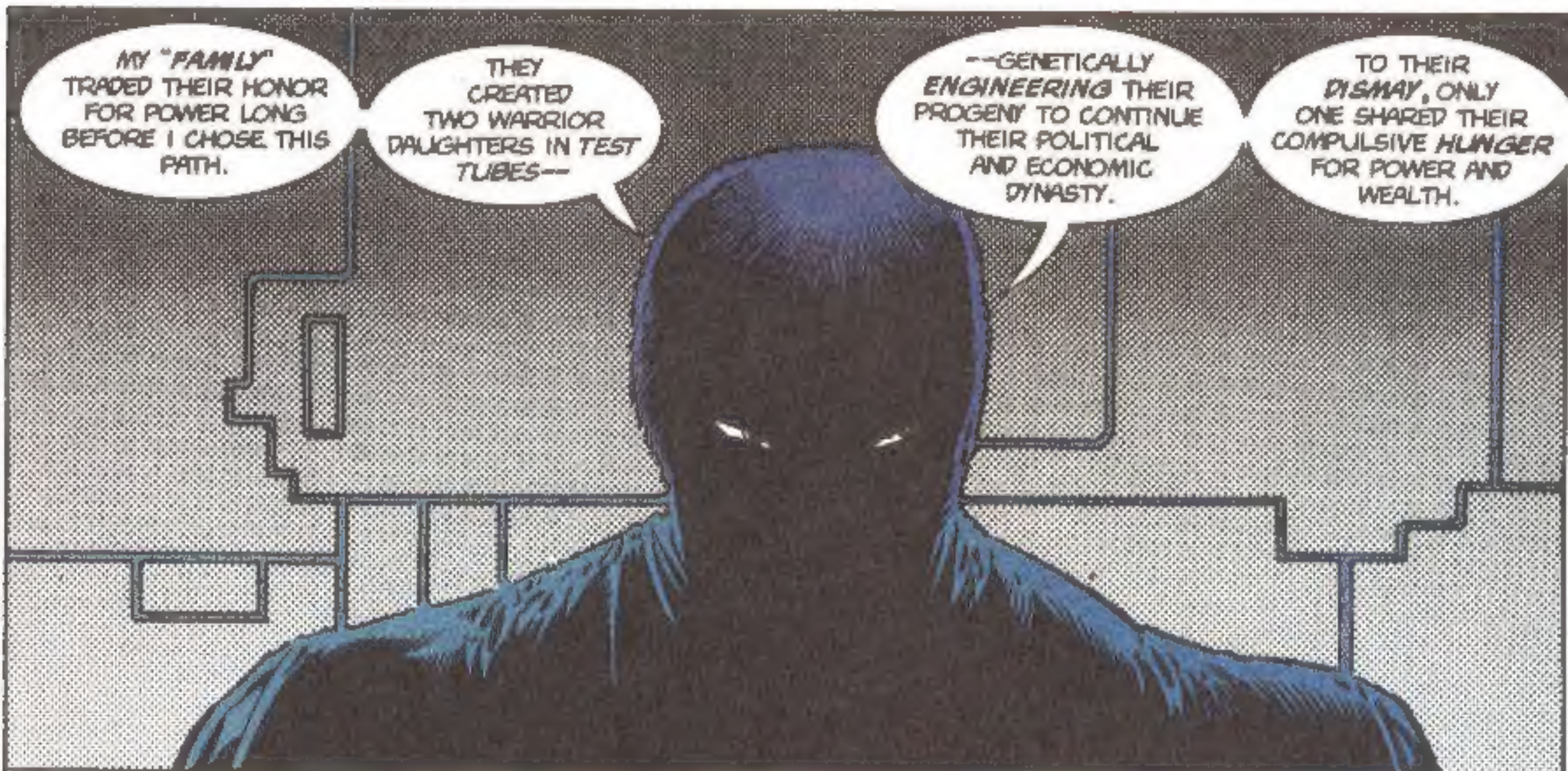
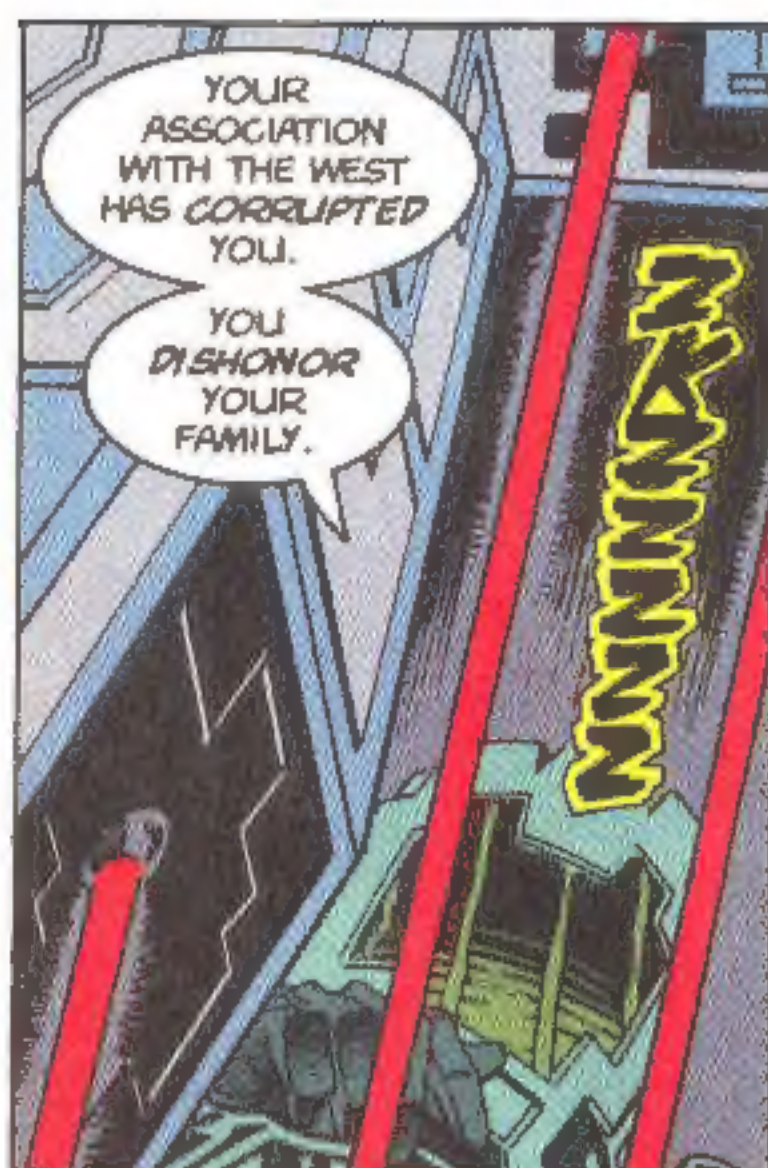


YOUR ATTEMPT TO SABOTAGE YOUR SISTER'S BUSINESS BY BRINGING THE FOREIGN DEVILS HERE HAS FAILED.



FENG HUANG IS MY SISTER ONLY BY A CAPRICIOUS WHIM OF SCIENCE.

THE ONLY PARENT WE SHARE IS THE STERILE LABORATORY CRECHE IN WHICH WE WERE BIRTHED.

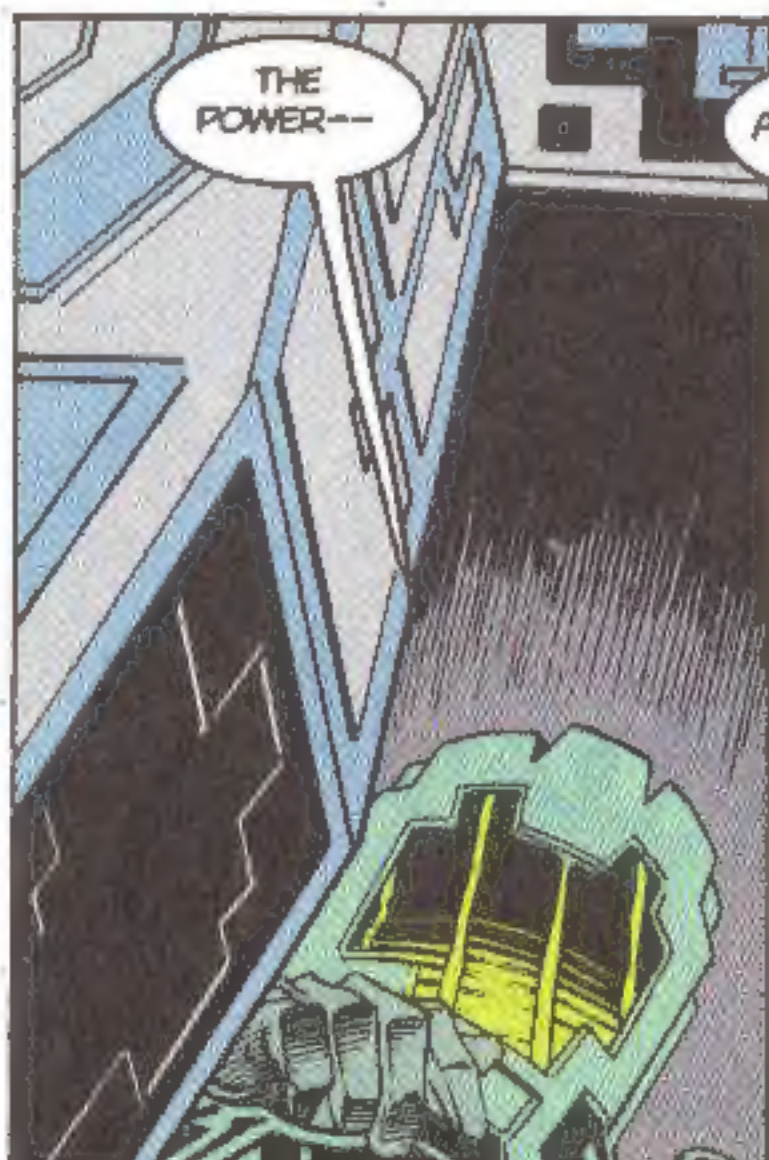


MY "FAMILY" TRADED THEIR HONOR FOR POWER LONG BEFORE I CHOSE THIS PATH.

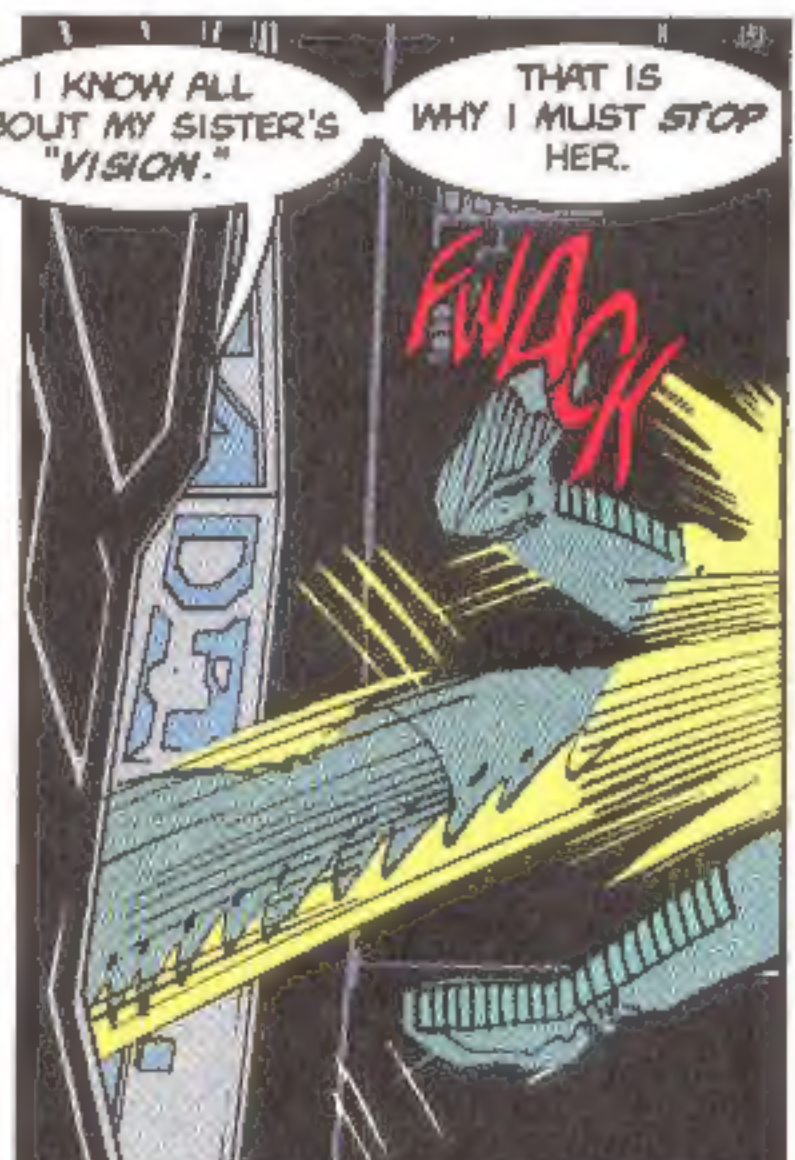
THEY CREATED TWO WARRIOR DAUGHTERS IN TEST TUBES--

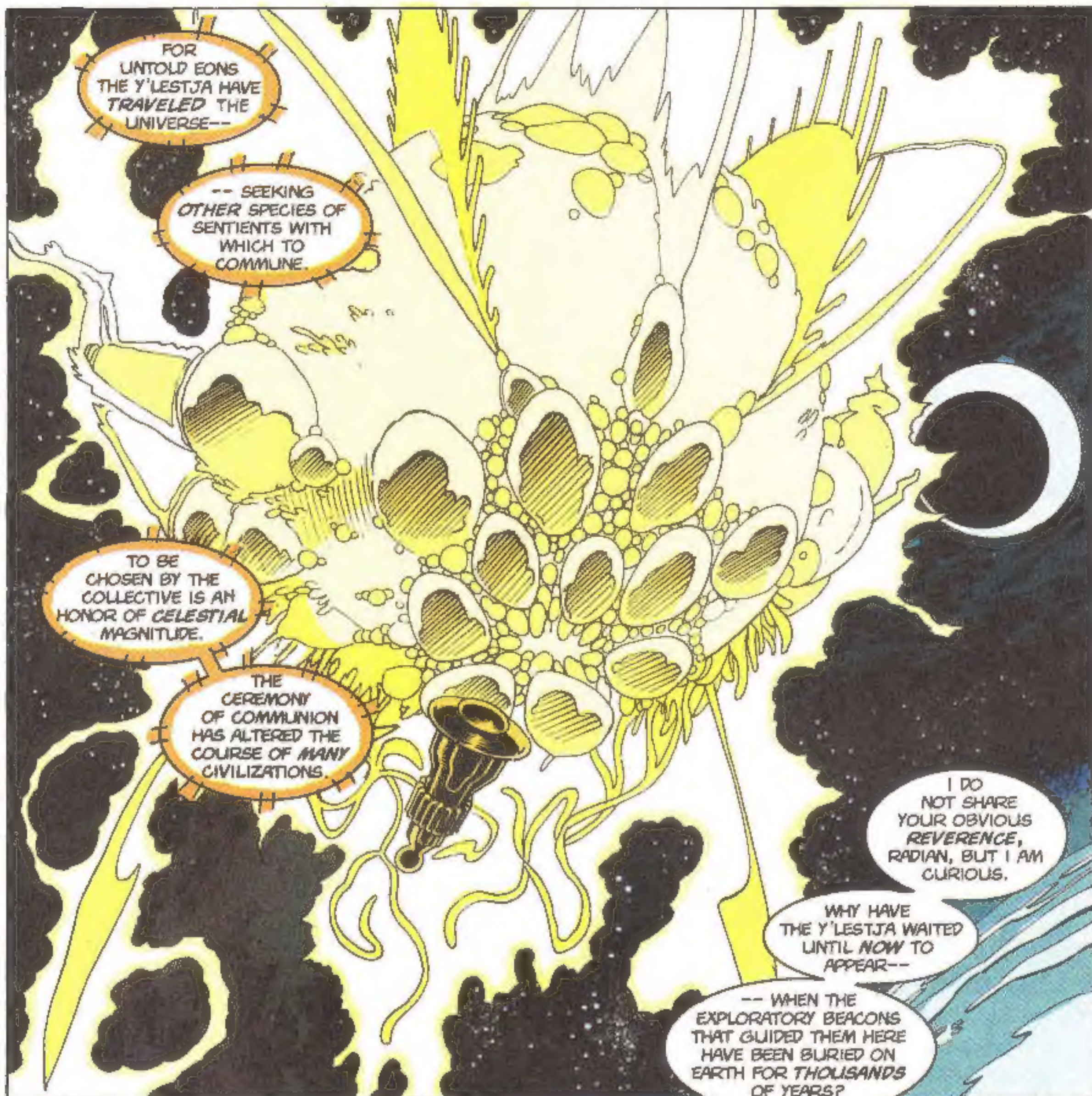
--GENETICALLY ENGINEERING THEIR PROGENY TO CONTINUE THEIR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DYNASTY.

TO THEIR DISMAY, ONLY ONE SHARED THEIR COMPULSIVE HUNGER FOR POWER AND WEALTH.



THE POWER--





FOR
UNTOLD EONS
THE Y'LESTJA HAVE
TRAVELED THE
UNIVERSE--

-- SEEKING
OTHER SPECIES OF
SENTIENTS WITH
WHICH TO COMMUNE.

TO BE
CHOSEN BY THE
COLLECTIVE IS AN
HONOR OF CELESTIAL
MAGNITUDE.

THE
CEREMONY
OF COMMUNION
HAS ALTERED THE
COURSE OF MANY
CIVILIZATIONS.

I DO
NOT SHARE
YOUR OBVIOUS
REVERENCE,
RADIAN, BUT I AM
CURIOUS.


WHY HAVE
THE Y'LESTJA WAITED
UNTIL NOW TO
APPEAR--

-- WHEN THE
EXPLORATORY BEACONS
THAT GUIDED THEM HERE
HAVE BEEN BURIED ON
EARTH FOR THOUSANDS
OF YEARS?



THROUGH
THE GYPSY KAZIMIERZ,
THE COLLECTIVE LEARNED
OF THE CROSSROADS
YOUR SPECIES
APPROACHES.

THEY
CONCLUDED THIS
MIGHT BE THEIR
LAST OPPORTUNITY
POSSIBLE TO FULLY
JOIN WITH YOUR
PEOPLE.



ARE YOU TELLING ME THEY
SHOWED UP BECAUSE THE HUMAN RACE
MIGHT NOT BE AROUND THE NEXT
TIME THEY'RE IN OUR NECK OF THE
UNIVERSE?

THE COLLECTIVE
UNDERSTANDS YOUR
CAPACITY FOR SELF
DESTRUCTION.

THAT
MAKES ME FEEL
SOOOO MUCH
BETTER.

FEAR NOT,
HUMAN. THE COLLECTIVE
ALSO RECOGNIZES YOUR
POTENTIAL TO TRANSCEND
THE CANCERS THAT PLAGUE
YOUR SPIRIT.

MY SPECIES
ALSO, WAS ONCE AS YOU,
AT WAR WITH ITSELF, HEADED
FOR AN OBLIVION OF ITS
OWN MAKING.

WE WERE
CREATURES OF LIGHT
DIMMED BY THE DARKNESS
OF OUR SOULS.

THEN THE
Y'LESTJA CAME
TO OUR
PLANET.

FROM OUR
COMMUNAL EXCHANGE,
WE FOUND THE MEANS TO
CHANGE OUR DISCORDANT
EXISTENCE INTO A
HARMONIOUS
ONE.

IN APPRECIATION,
SOME OF MY
PEOPLE BECAME
EMISSARIES OF THE
COLLECTIVE--

-- ASSUMING
THE FORM OF THE
CHOSEN SPECIES TO
FACILITATE THE
ARRIVAL OF THE
Y'LESTJA.



EVEN NOW THE LIFE FORCE OF THE COLLECTIVE BEGINS TO SURROUND US.

POET, I JUST FELT SOMETHING WASH OVER ME— SOMETHING SOOTHING AND WARM—

I KNOW... I FEEL LIKE I'M GLOWING...

YOU ARE GLOWING, AND... LOOK AT KAZ--



HE'S CONSCIOUS.

WE ARE Y'LESTJA.

WE DANCE THE LIGHT TRANSCENDENT.

WE SING THE HARMONY CONSTANT.

WE CELEBRATE THE FOREVER RHYME.

WE SHARE THE BOND UNIVERSAL.



THIS IS THE MELDING.

THE POINT AT WHICH ALL BARRIERS OF FLESH AND FORM ARE SWEEP AWAY.

NO. WON'T LET MYSELF BE SUBLIMED BY THESE ALIENS...

... ARMOR NOT RESPONDING...

... MUST CONCENTRATE...

... IGNORE THE VOICES...

... THE VOICES...

AROUND THE WORLD, THE PRESENCE OF THE Y'LESTJA LIGHTS UP THE SKY WITH A LUMINOUS BURST THAT CANNOT BE IGNORED.

IN NEW YORK CITY, MIGUEL AND DANA WATCH FROM A BABYLON TOWERS PENTHOUSE.

MIGUEL, WHAT IS THAT?

SOME KIND OF, UH, SATELLITE EXPLOSION, MAYBE.

IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL AND AT THE SAME TIME, OMINOUS. SHOULD WE BE WORRIED?

THROUGH ALL THE CHAOS IN MY LIFE LATELY, I'VE DEVELOPED SORT OF A SIXTH SENSE ABOUT DANGER--

-- AND IT ISN'T GOING OFF.

IN LATVERIA, ABOARD THE FLOATING CITY OF VALHALLA, THE CYBERSAVANT WIRE DISCONNECTS FROM THE WORLDNET, OVERCOME BY GENUINE AWE.

ABSOLUTE HARDCORE.

AT THE WAKANDAN STATE OBSERVATORY, THAT NATION'S PRINCESS OKUISANA DEMANDS AN EXPLANATION FOR THE STELLAR PHENOMENA.

IT'S COMING FROM THE VICINITY OF THE CHIN SAN SPACE PLATFORM, PRINCESS.

THE ENERGY READINGS ARE OFF THE SCALE.

IS IT A THREAT?

WE CANNOT BE SURE. WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S INTERFERING WITH ALL OUR SATELLITE DATA FEEDS.

IN THE HEART OF ANTARCTICA, A TEAM OF GEOLOGISTS RETURNING TO THE SAVAGE LAND STOP IN THEIR FROZEN TRACKS.

FIRST THE EARTHQUAKES, NOW THIS.

IF I WERE A RELIGIOUS MAN, I'D SAY THIS WAS A SIGN FROM GOD.

IF IT'S NOT, IT CERTAINLY MAKES AN EFFECTIVE SUBSTITUTE.



STRANGE.
NONE OF THE
STATION'S ELECTRICAL
SYSTEMS ARE ON
LINE.

I HAD
TO CLIMB THROUGH
THE SERVICE DUCTS
TO GET TO THE
BRIDGE..

IF MY
SISTER HAS LOST
CONTROL OF THE
PLATFORM, I CAN
USE THAT TO MY
ADVANTAGE.

MERCIFUL
HEAVENS, WHAT HAVE
I MISSED WHILE
BEING HELD IN THE
BRIG?

THE
LATVERIAN MONARCH
IS HERE WITH AN
UNEARTHLY
STRANGER ..

.. AND
KAZIMIERZ
PULSES WITH AN
ENERGY ..

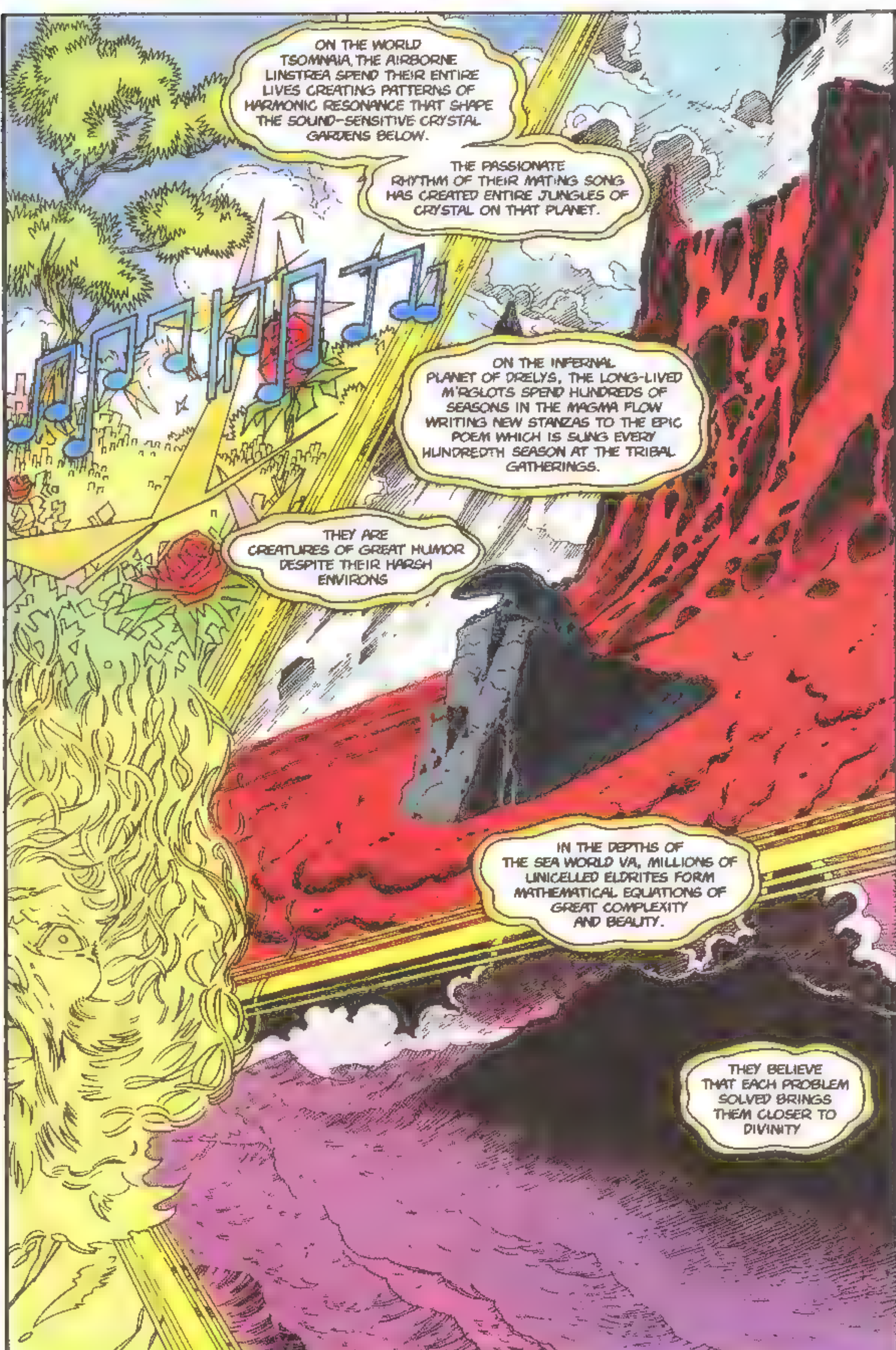
.. THAT
I FIND
ODDLY...

ENRAPTURING

WE
OFFER THE TOTALITY
OF OUR TRAVELS, THE
POETRY OF OUR
EXPERIENCE--

-- THE
SENSATION OF
THOUSANDS UPON
THOUSANDS OF
DIFFERENT LIFE
FORMS--

-- EACH
UNIQUE, YET BOUND
TO ANOTHER BY
THE COSMIC
THREAD--



ON THE WORLD
TSONNIA, THE AIRBORNE
LINSTREA SPEND THEIR ENTIRE
LIVES CREATING PATTERNS OF
HARMONIC RESONANCE THAT SHAPE
THE SOUND-SENSITIVE CRYSTAL
GARDENS BELOW.

THE PASSIONATE
RHYTHM OF THEIR MATING SONG
HAS CREATED ENTIRE JUNGLES OF
CRYSTAL ON THAT PLANET.

ON THE INFERNAL
PLANET OF DRELYS, THE LONG-LIVED
M'RGLOTS SPEND HUNDREDS OF
SEASONS IN THE MAGMA FLOW
WRITING NEW STANZAS TO THE EPIC
POEM WHICH IS SUNG EVERY
HUNDREDTH SEASON AT THE TRIBAL
GATHERINGS.

THEY ARE
CREATURES OF GREAT HUMOR
DESPITE THEIR HARSH
ENVIRONS

IN THE DEPTHS OF
THE SEA WORLD VA, MILLIONS OF
UNICELLED ELDRITES FORM
MATHEMATICAL EQUATIONS OF
GREAT COMPLEXITY
AND BEAUTY.

THEY BELIEVE
THAT EACH PROBLEM
SOLVED BRINGS
THEM CLOSER TO
DIVINITY

THIS IS THE
Y'LESTJA'S GIFT.

A MOMENTARY
GLIMPSE INTO THE
MAGNIFICENCE OF
THE UNIVERSE—

-- AN UNDERSTANDING
OF THE INFINITE
DIVERSITY OF LIFE
DUSTED ACROSS THE
COSMIC PLANE

AND FROM YOU WHO
REPRESENT EARTH, THE
Y'LESTJA SEEK ONLY TO
GRASP THAT WHICH DEFINES
YOUR EXISTENCE—

THE SYMBOLS AND METAPHORS
AND ICONOGRAPHY THAT GIVE
YOUR CARBON-BASED LIVES
MEANING AND SUBSTANCE.

TIGER AND DRAGON
TOTEEMS, CARDS OF
DIVINATION, BOOKS OF
MAGIC AND MEDICINE,
GUARDIAN ANGLES,
BIRDS OF
RESURRECTION

A RAINBOW OF VARIATION.

YOUR SPECIES' CAPACITY
TO DRAW STRENGTH
FROM ITS EMPATHETIC
ABSTRACTIONS MAY BE
YOUR SALVATION.

NO MATTER YOUR FINAL
FATE, THE COLLECTIVE WILL
SING OF HUMANITY UNTIL
IT TOO REACHES ITS
ULTIMATE CONCLUSION

THE Y'LESTJA THANK
YOU FOR OPENING YOUR
MINDS AND SOULS TO
ITS COLLECTIVE
CONSCIOUSNESS.



THE COLLECTIVES
PSYCHIC CONNECTIONS
BEGIN TO FADE. THE
CHOIR OF VOICES
ECHOING IN MY HEAD
GROWS SILENT

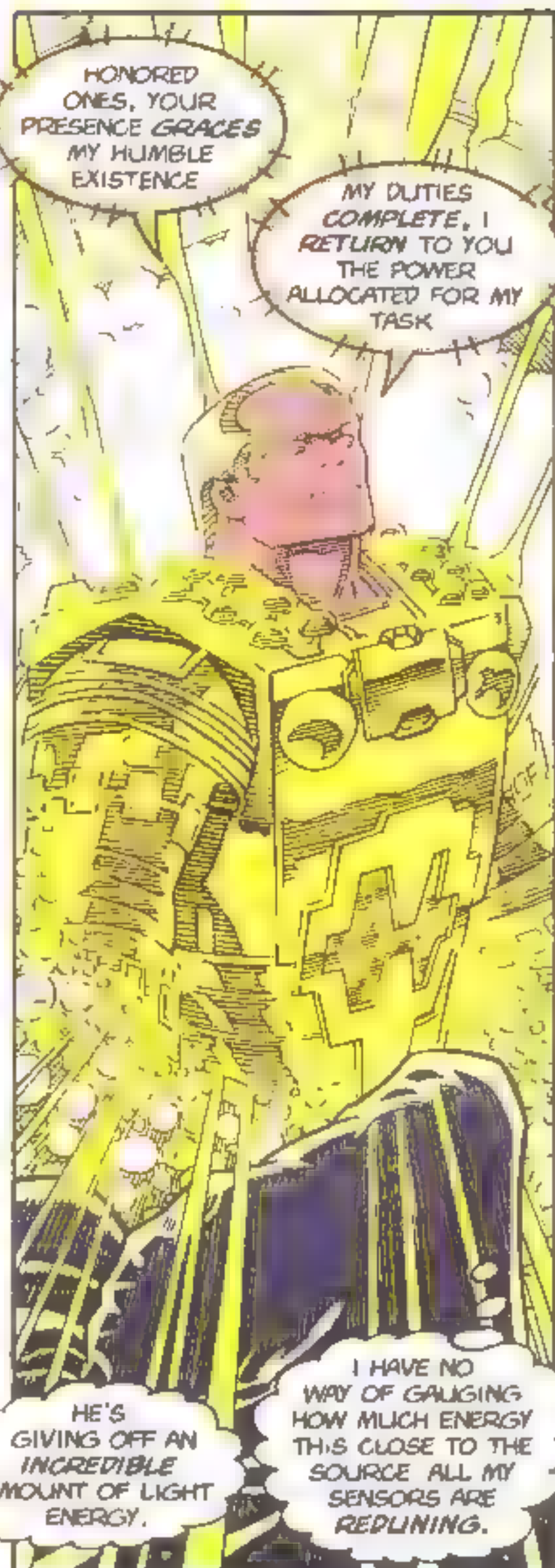
FIND
THIS EXPERIENCE
HAS LEFT ME
FEELING ODDLY
CONTENT AND
HOPEFUL

CAN AS
POWERFUL A RACE
AS THE Y'LESTJA BE
MOTIVATED ONLY BY
THEIR PASSION FOR
CULTURAL
EXCHANGE?

I MUST BE
CERTAIN THAT MY
ARMOR HAS RECORDED
ALL THE EVENTS OF
THIS DAY

THEY
WARRANT
STUDY.

AS DOES
THE BEING CALLED
RADIANT ...

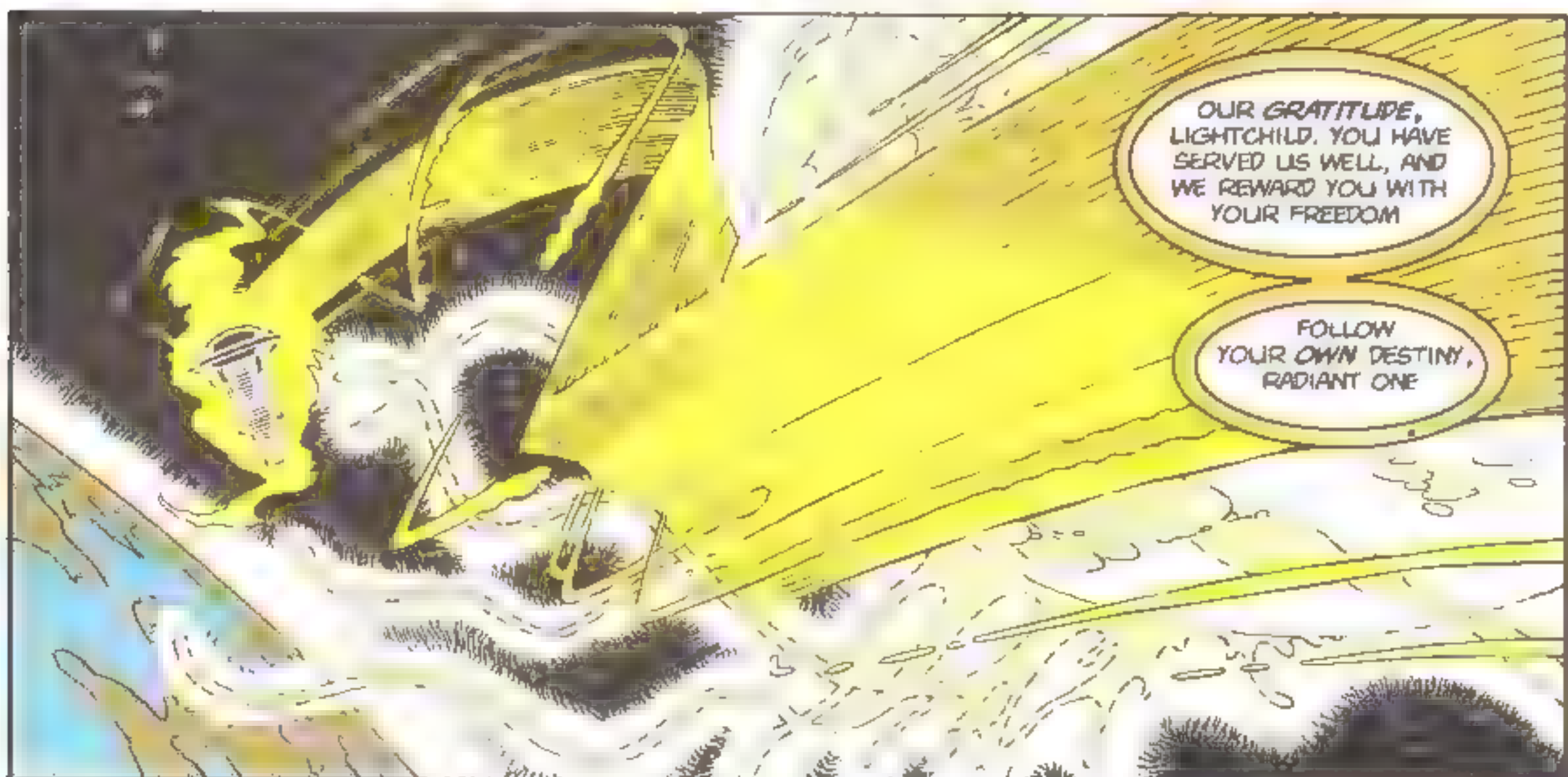


HONORED
ONES, YOUR
PRESENCE GRACES
MY HUMBLE
EXISTENCE

MY DUTIES
COMPLETE, I
RETURN TO YOU
THE POWER
ALLOCATED FOR MY
TASK

HE'S
GIVING OFF AN
INCREDIBLE
AMOUNT OF LIGHT
ENERGY.

I HAVE NO
WAY OF GAUGING
HOW MUCH ENERGY
THIS CLOSE TO THE
SOURCE ALL MY
SENSORS ARE
REDLINING.



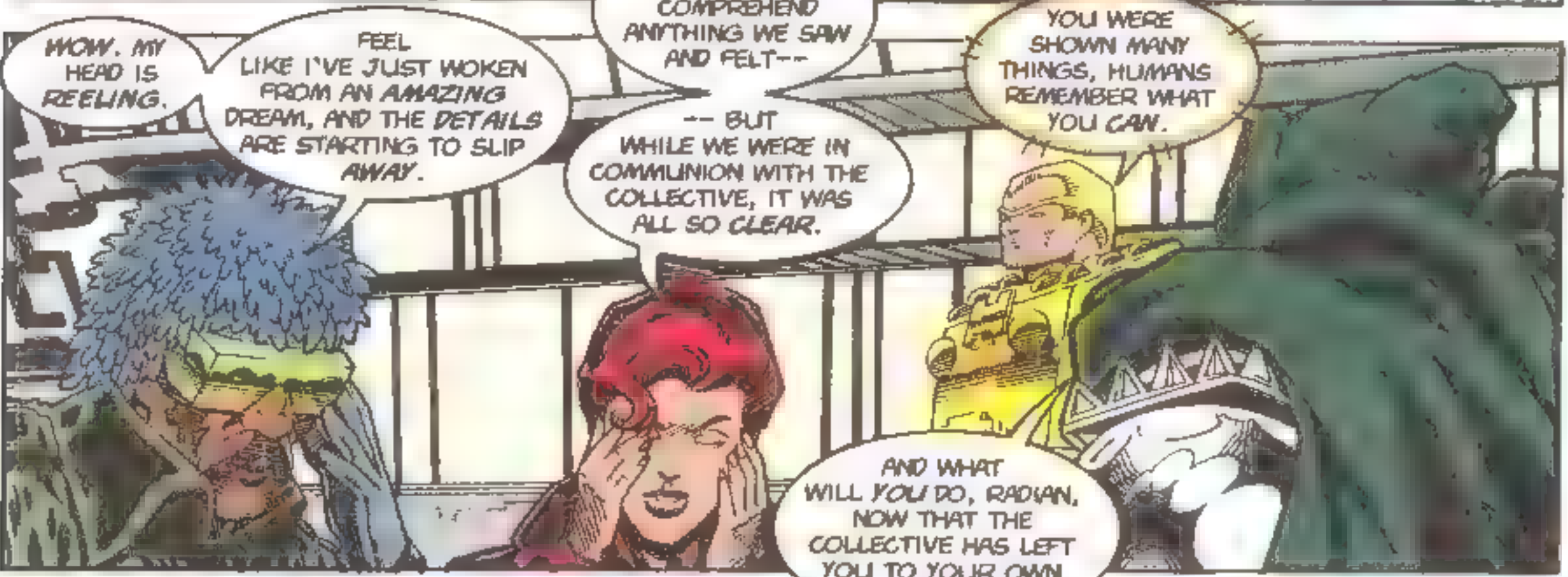
OUR GRATITUDE,
LIGHTCHILD. YOU HAVE
SERVED US WELL, AND
WE REWARD YOU WITH
YOUR FREEDOM

FOLLOW
YOUR OWN DESTINY,
RADIANT ONE



WE SHALL
MEET AGAIN IN THE
HOUR OF
ASCENSION

UNTIL
THAT TIME,
FAREWELL.



WOW. MY
HEAD IS
REELING.

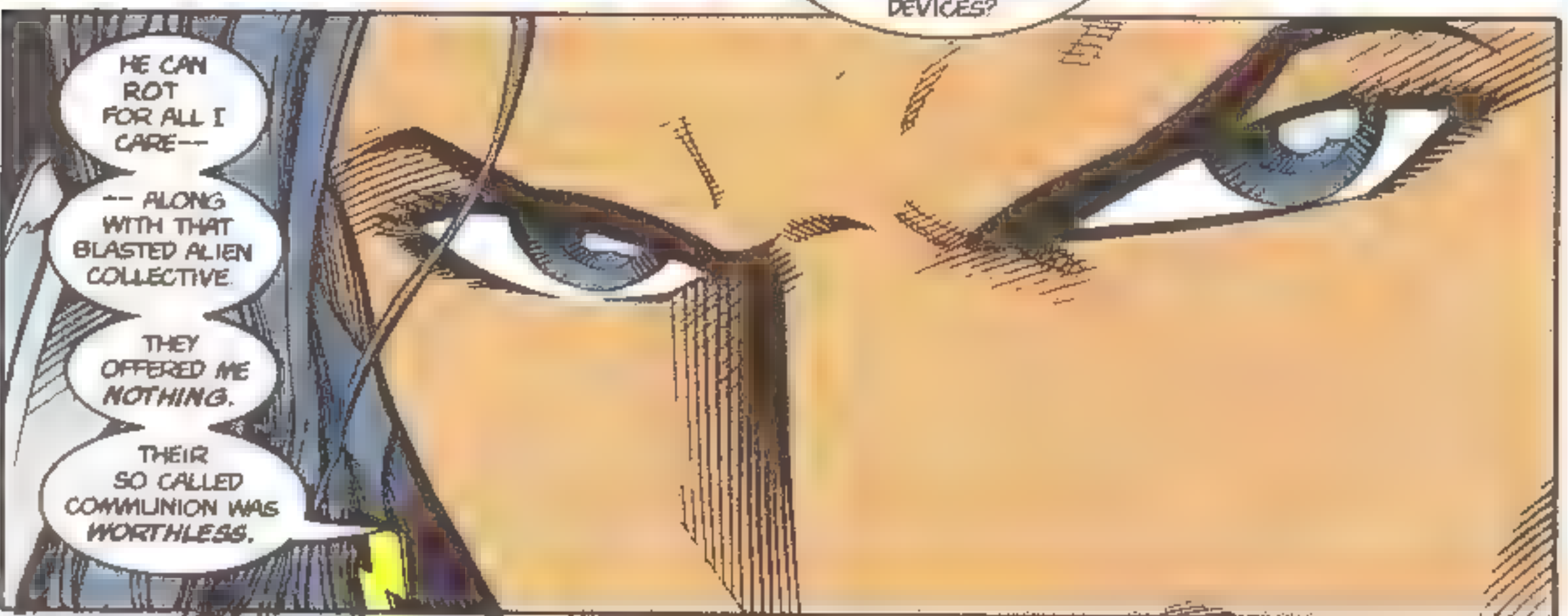
FEEL
LIKE I'VE JUST WOKEN
FROM AN AMAZING
DREAM, AND THE DETAILS
ARE STARTING TO SLIP
AWAY.

NOW, I
CAN BARELY
COMPREHEND
ANYTHING WE SAW
AND FELT--

-- BUT
WHILE WE WERE IN
COMMUNION WITH THE
COLLECTIVE, IT WAS
ALL SO CLEAR.

YOU WERE
SHOWN MANY
THINGS, HUMANS
REMEMBER WHAT
YOU CAN.

AND WHAT
WILL YOU DO, RADIAN,
NOW THAT THE
COLLECTIVE HAS LEFT
YOU TO YOUR OWN
DEVICES?

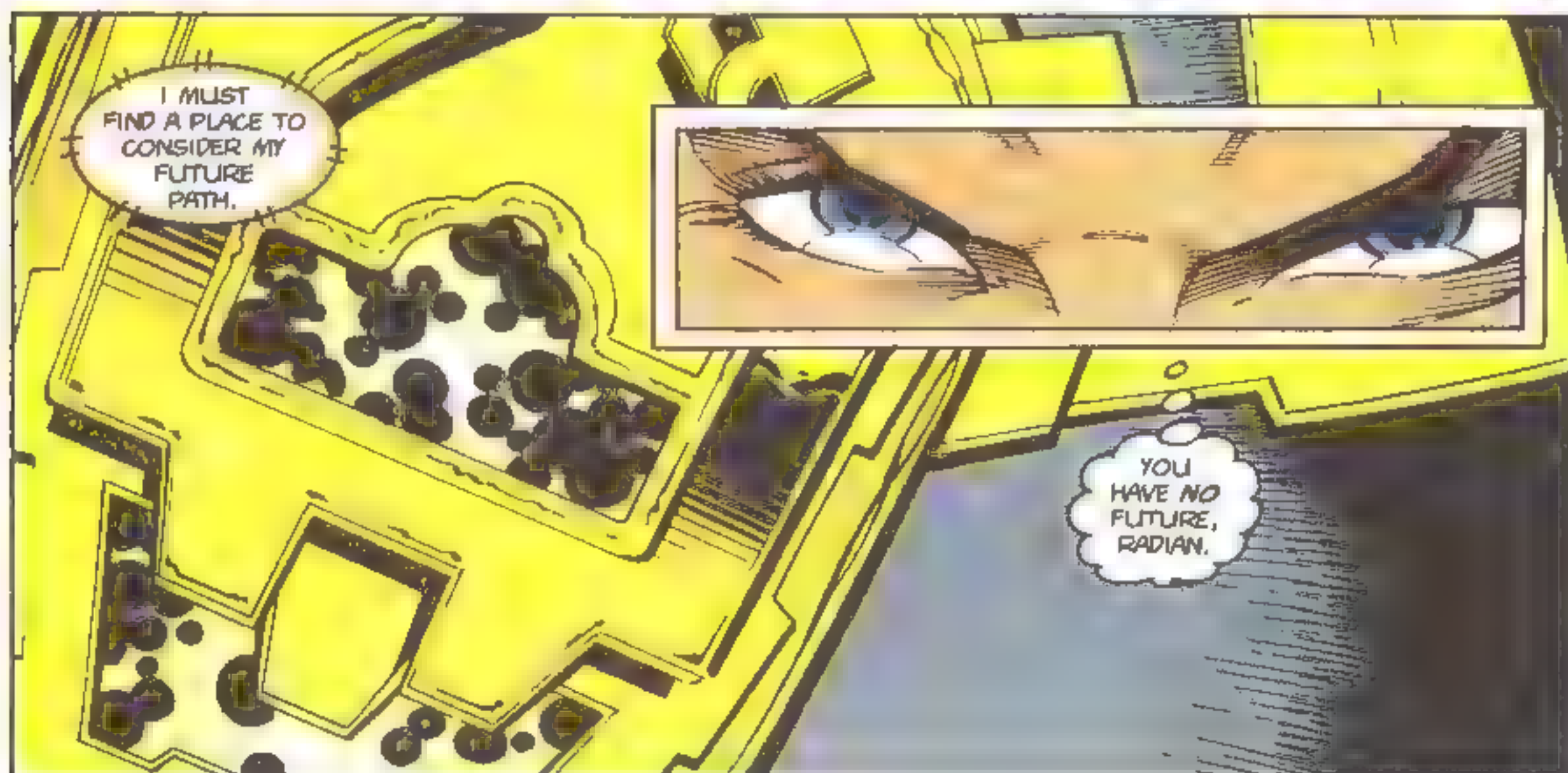
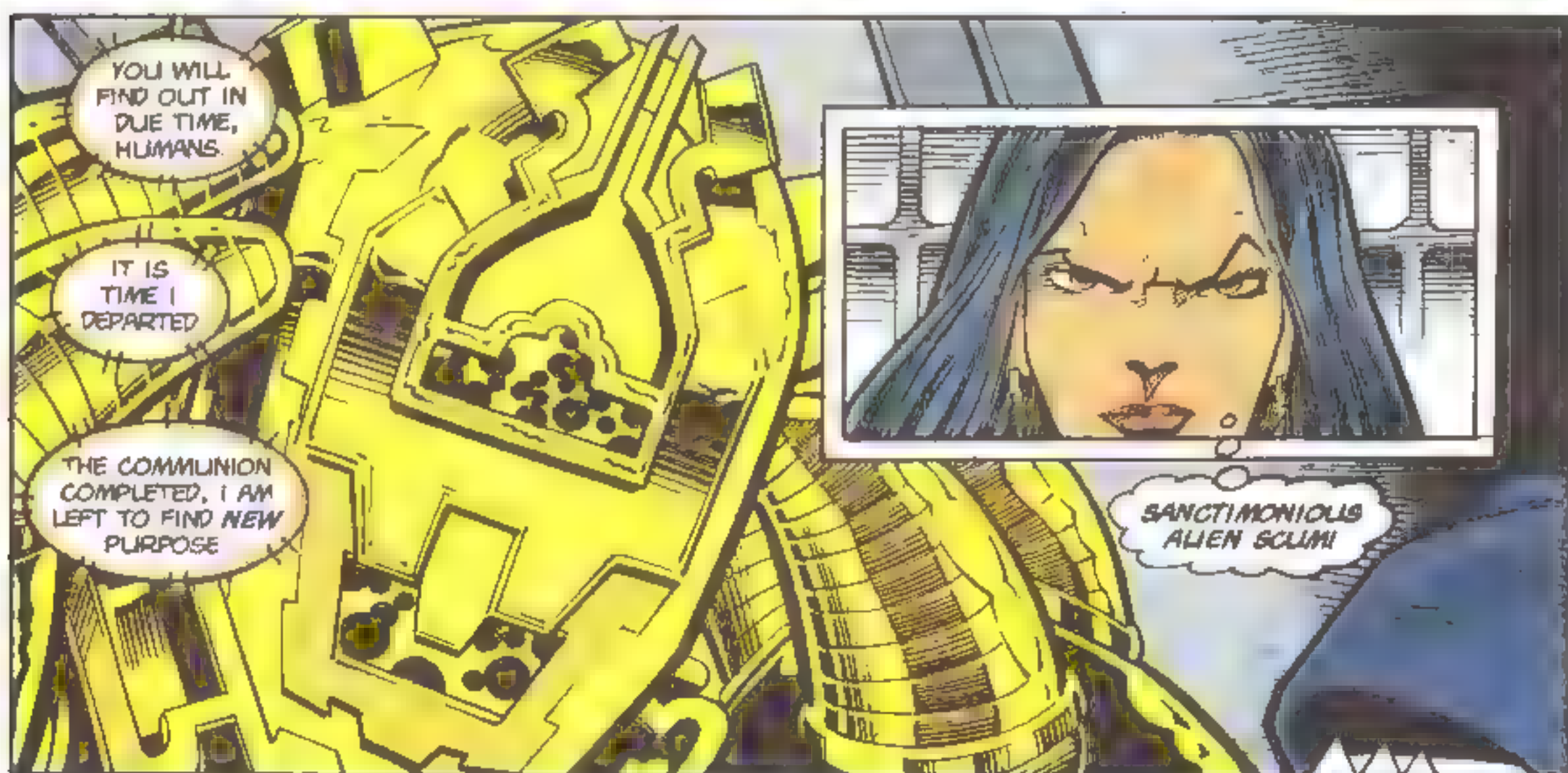
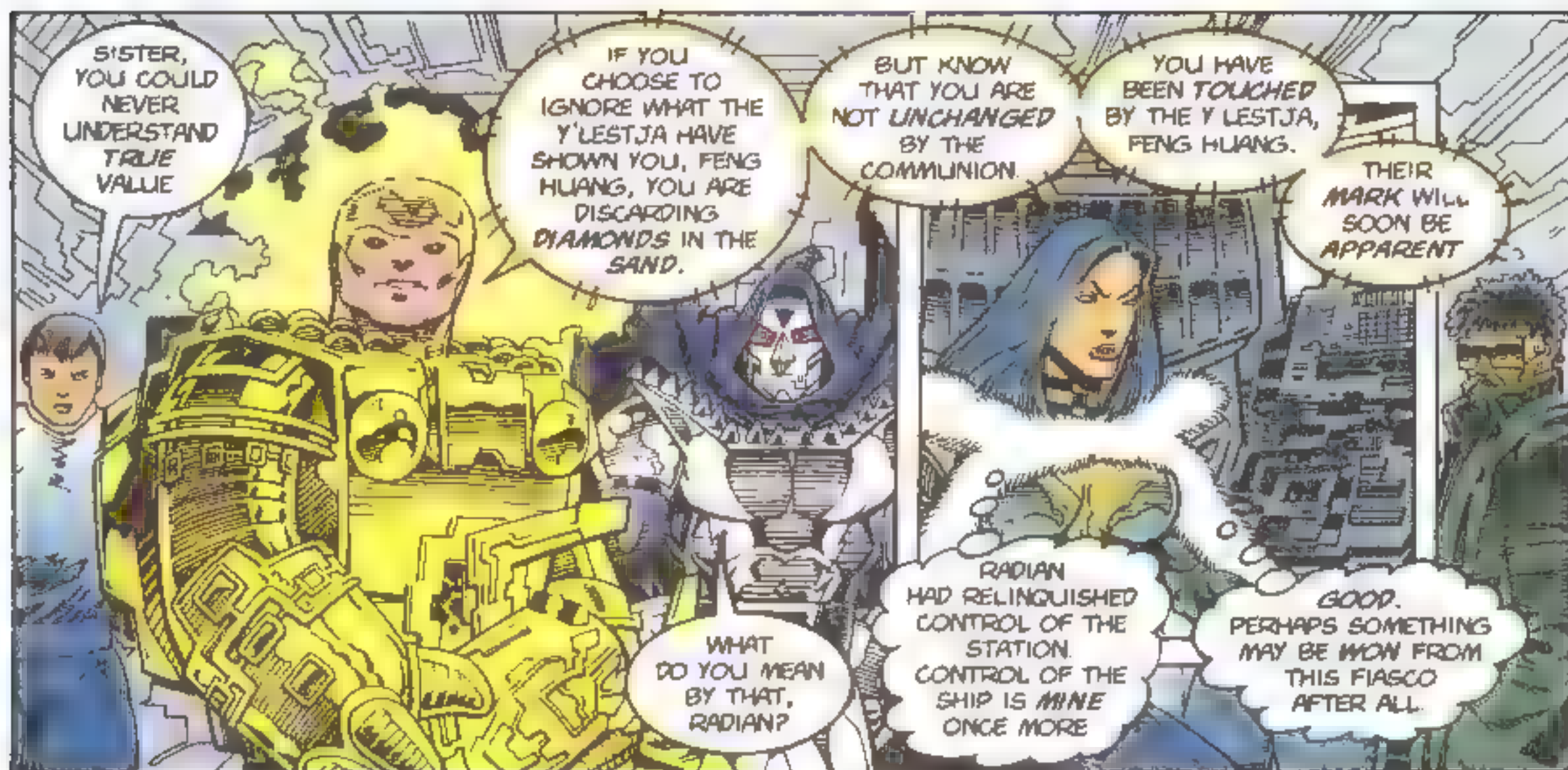


HE CAN
ROT
FOR ALL I
CARE--

-- ALONG
WITH THAT
BLASTED ALIEN
COLLECTIVE

THEY
OFFERED ME
NOTHING.

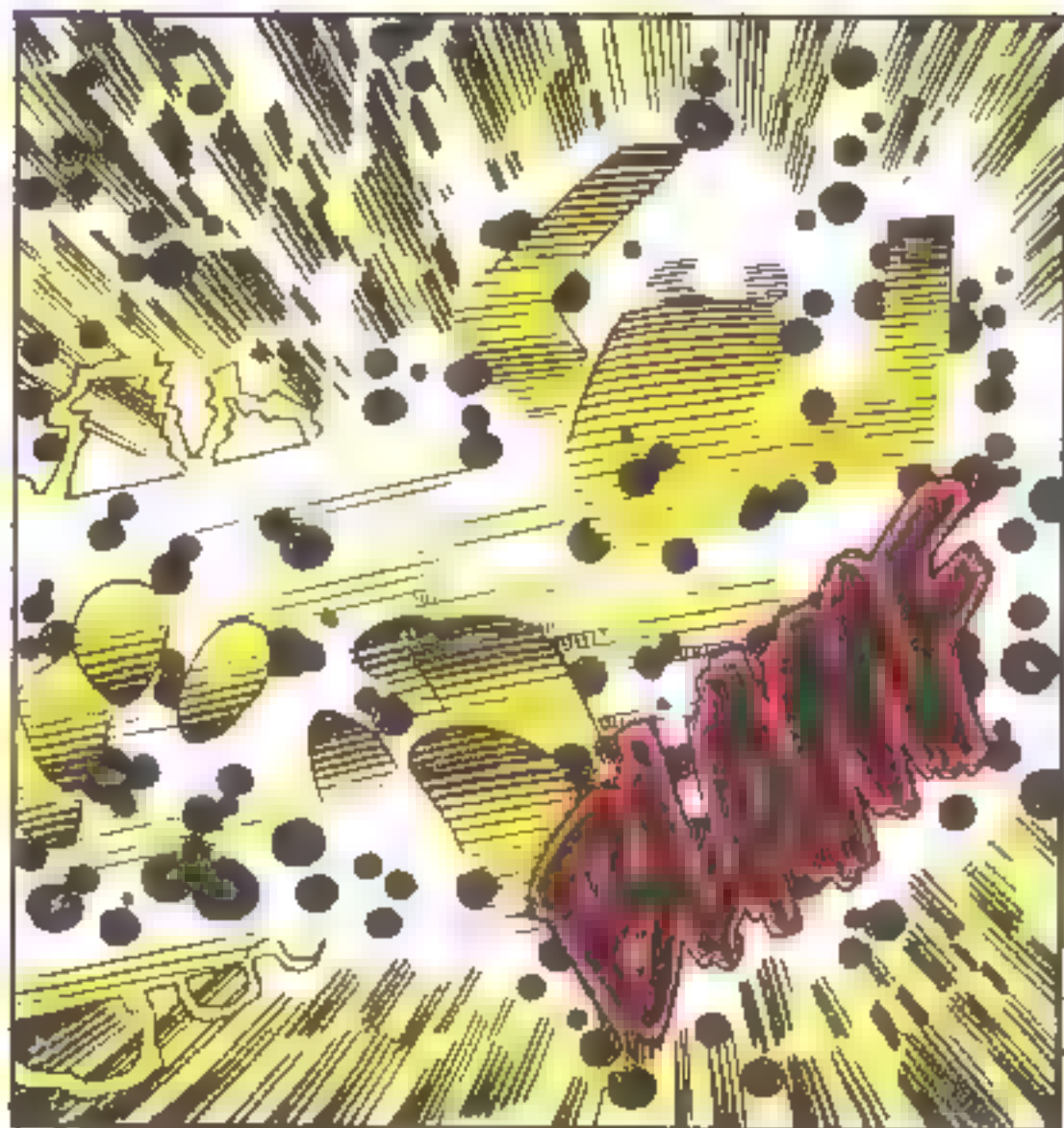
THEIR
SO CALLED
COMMUNION WAS
WORTHLESS.





I KNOW
THAT YOUR
POWER IS
DIMINISHED
NOW THAT YOUR
MASTERS HAVE
RETURNED
TO DEEP
SPACE

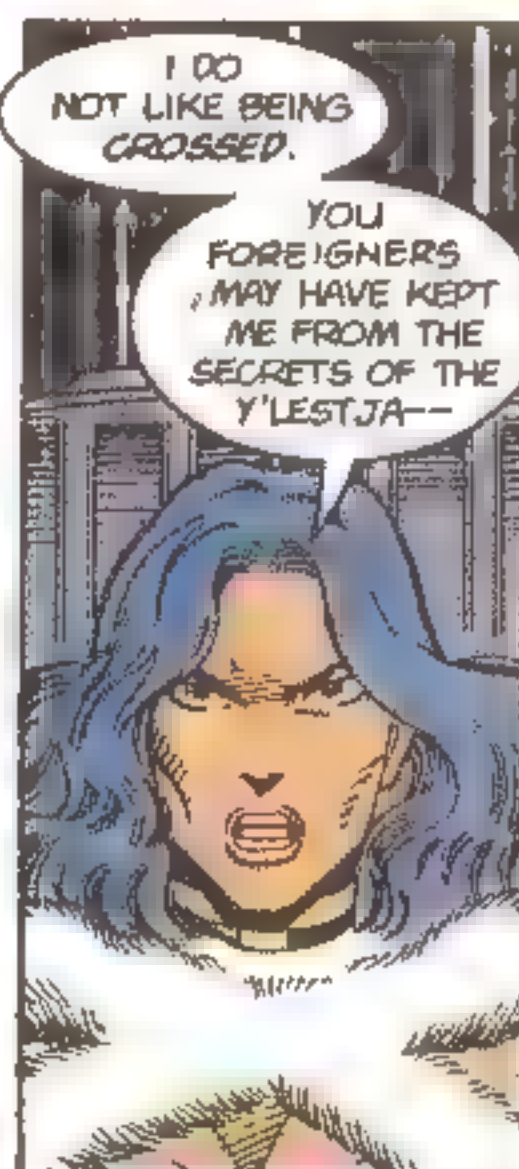
MY FIELD
DISRUPTORS
SHOULD
EXTINGUISH
YOUR ANNOYING
LIGHT



ENOUGH,
WOMAN.

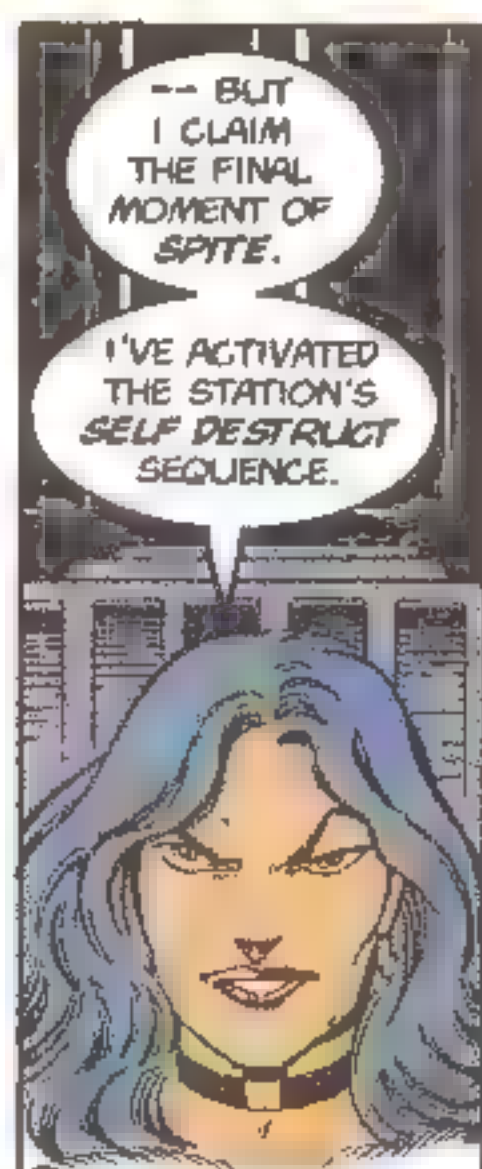


WHAT
PURPOSE DID
KILLING THE ALIEN
SERVE, FENG
HUANG?



I DO
NOT LIKE BEING
CROSSED.

YOU
FOREIGNERS
MAY HAVE KEPT
ME FROM THE
SECRETS OF THE
Y'LESTJA--



-- BUT
I CLAIM
THE FINAL
MOMENT OF
SPITE.

I'VE ACTIVATED
THE STATION'S
SELF DESTRUCT
SEQUENCE.



THERE IS A
SAYING. . "HAO
REN BU CHANG
SHOU."

WE WILL
NOT MEET
AGAIN.

FWOOP



WHAT
DID SHE
SAY?

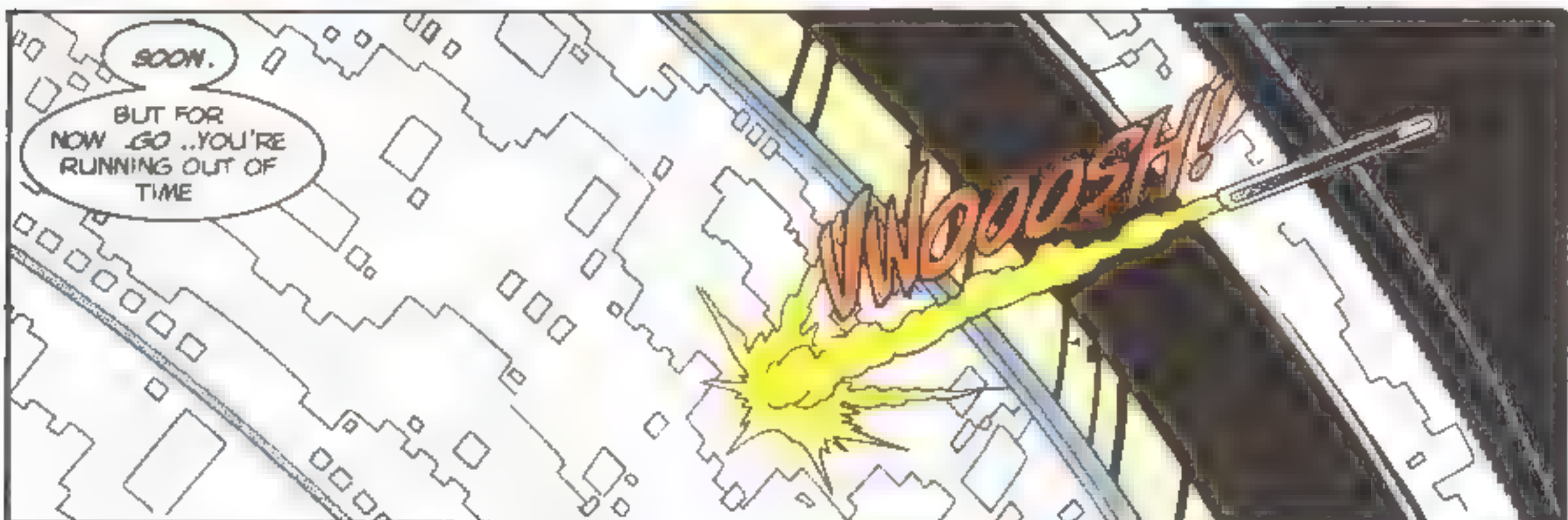
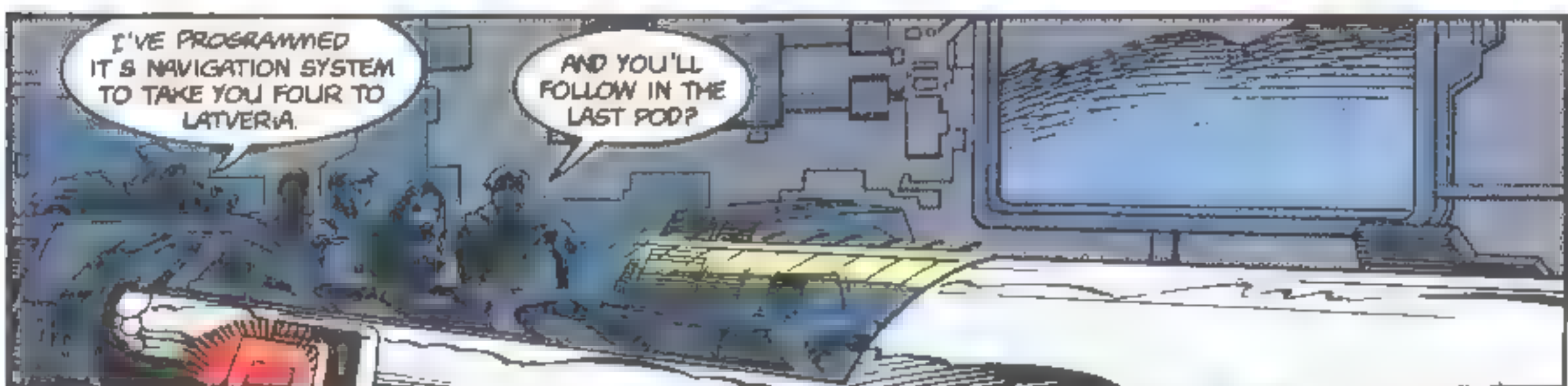
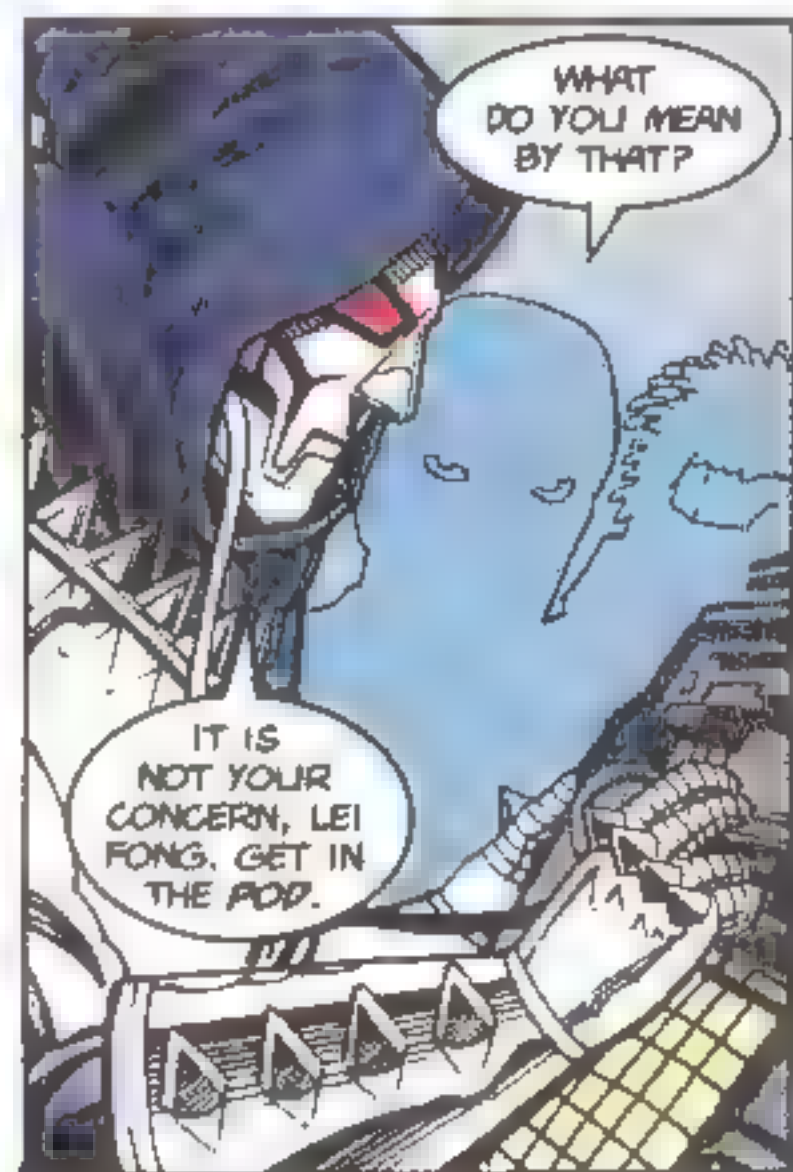
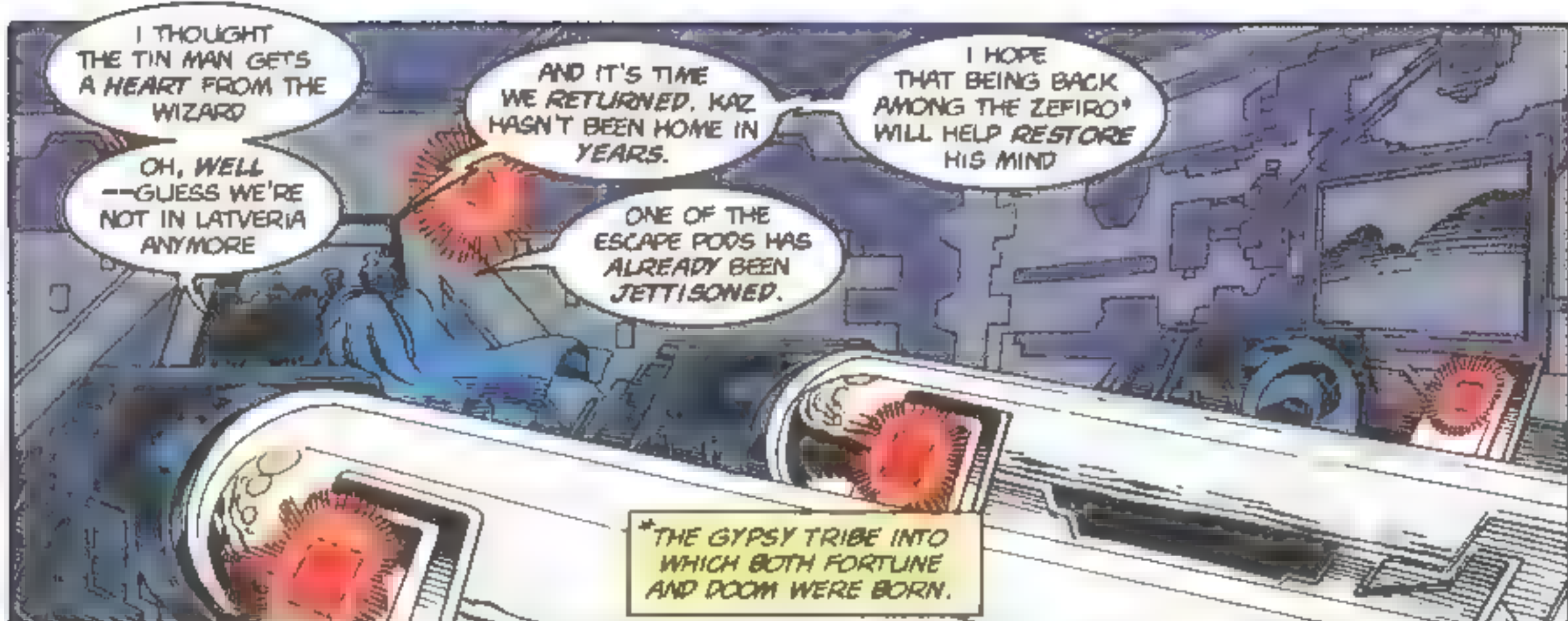
"GOOD
PEOPLE
DON'T LIVE
LONG."

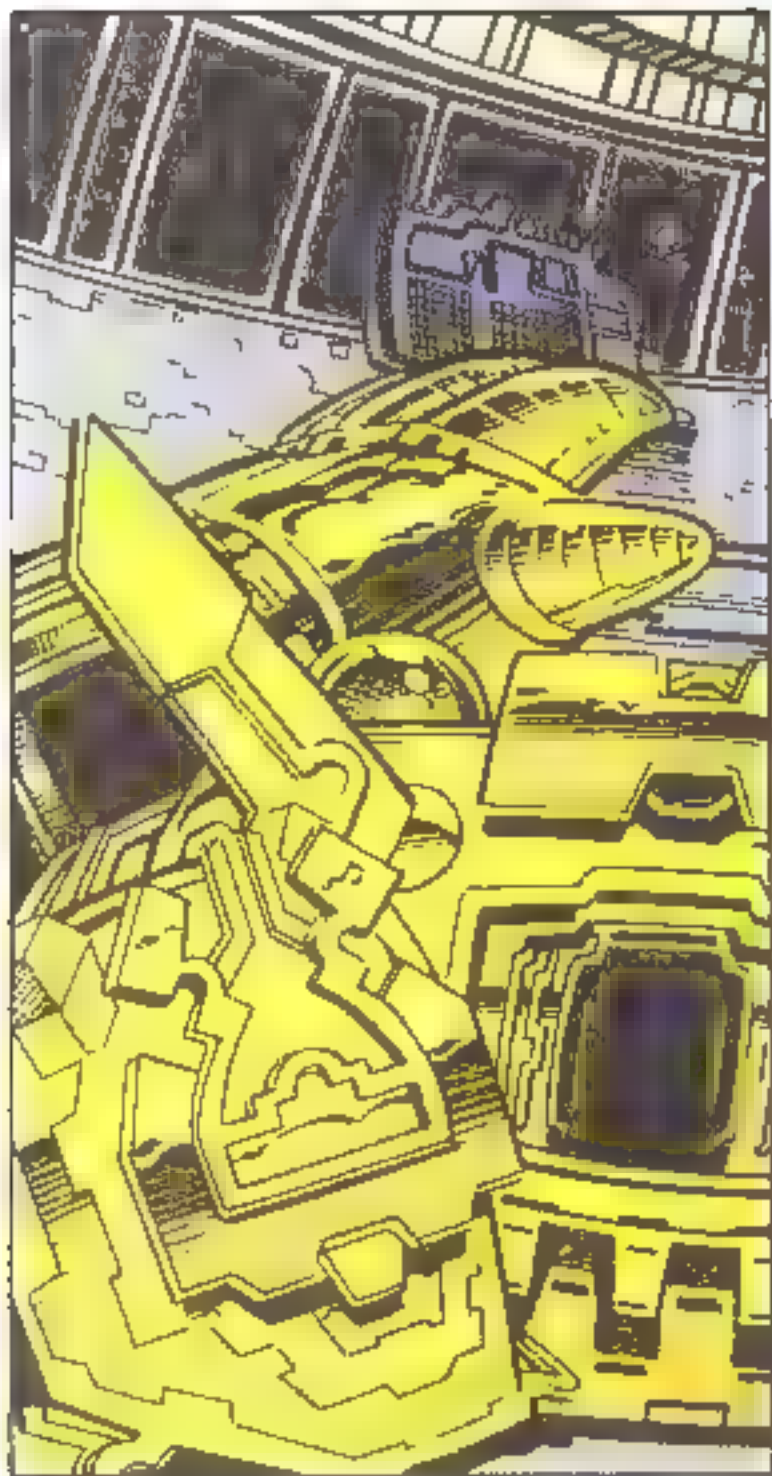
CURSE
MY
SISTER!

LOCKED

SLAM





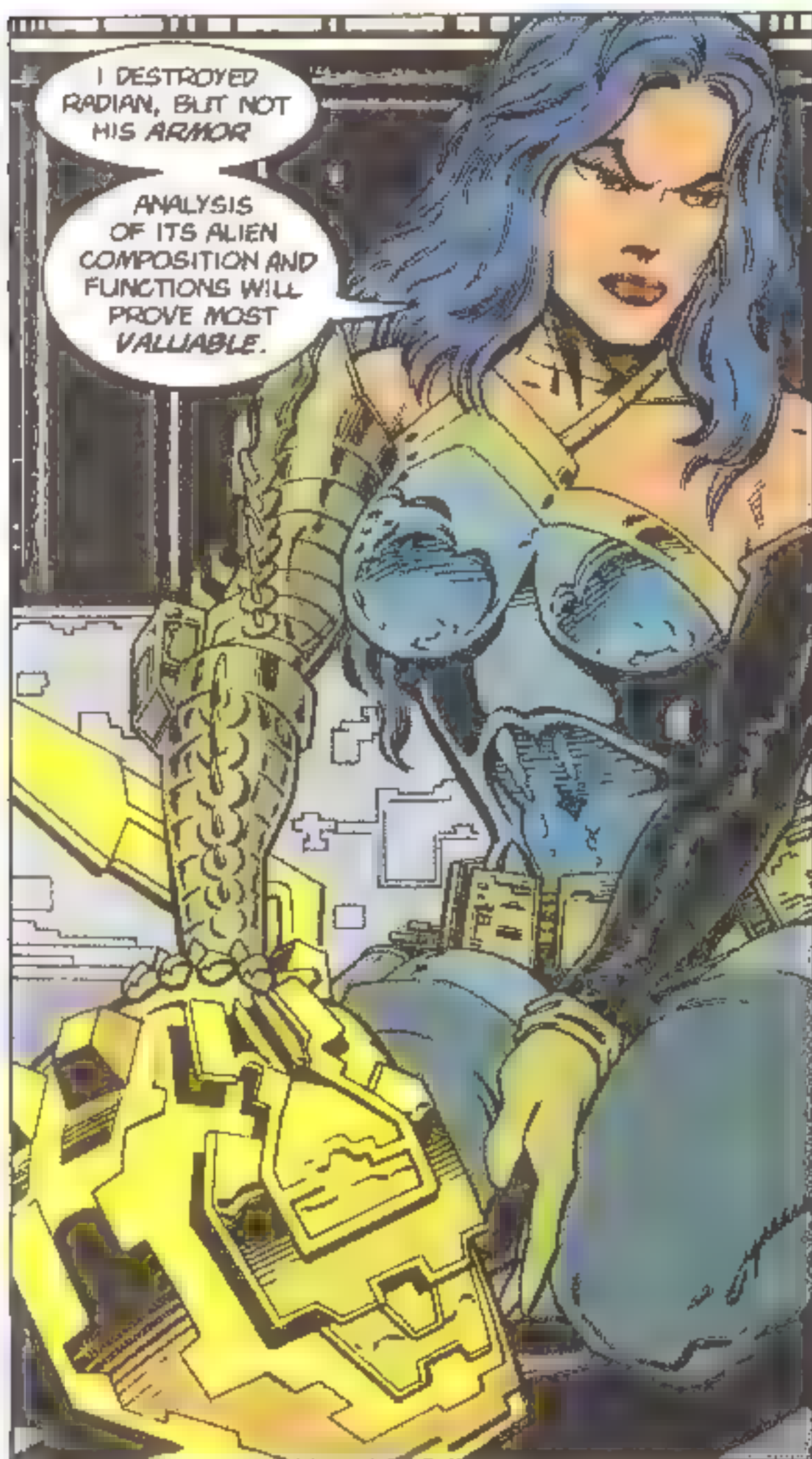


FOOLS.



THEY WERE SO PLEASED TO HAVE LEFT BEFORE THE COUNTDOWN FINISHED--

--THEY DIDN'T REALIZE THE PRIZE THEY LEFT BEHIND.

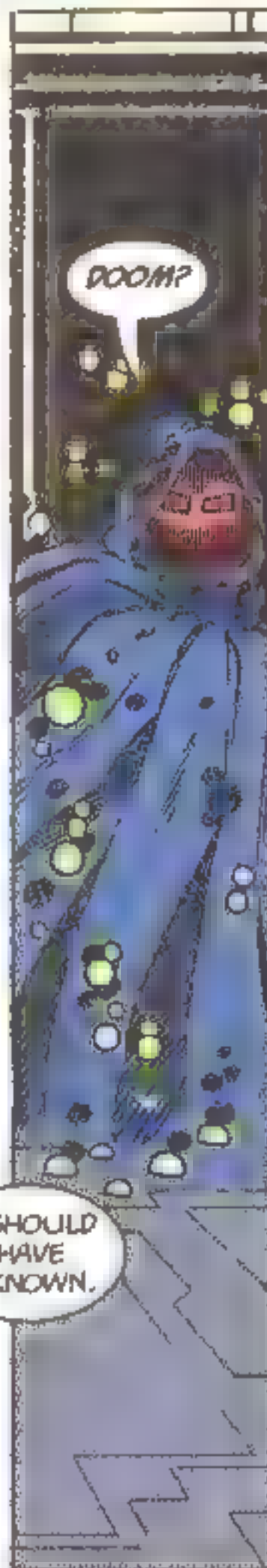


I DESTROYED RADIAN, BUT NOT HIS ARMOR

ANALYSIS OF ITS ALIEN COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS WILL PROVE MOST VALLIABLE.



EH?



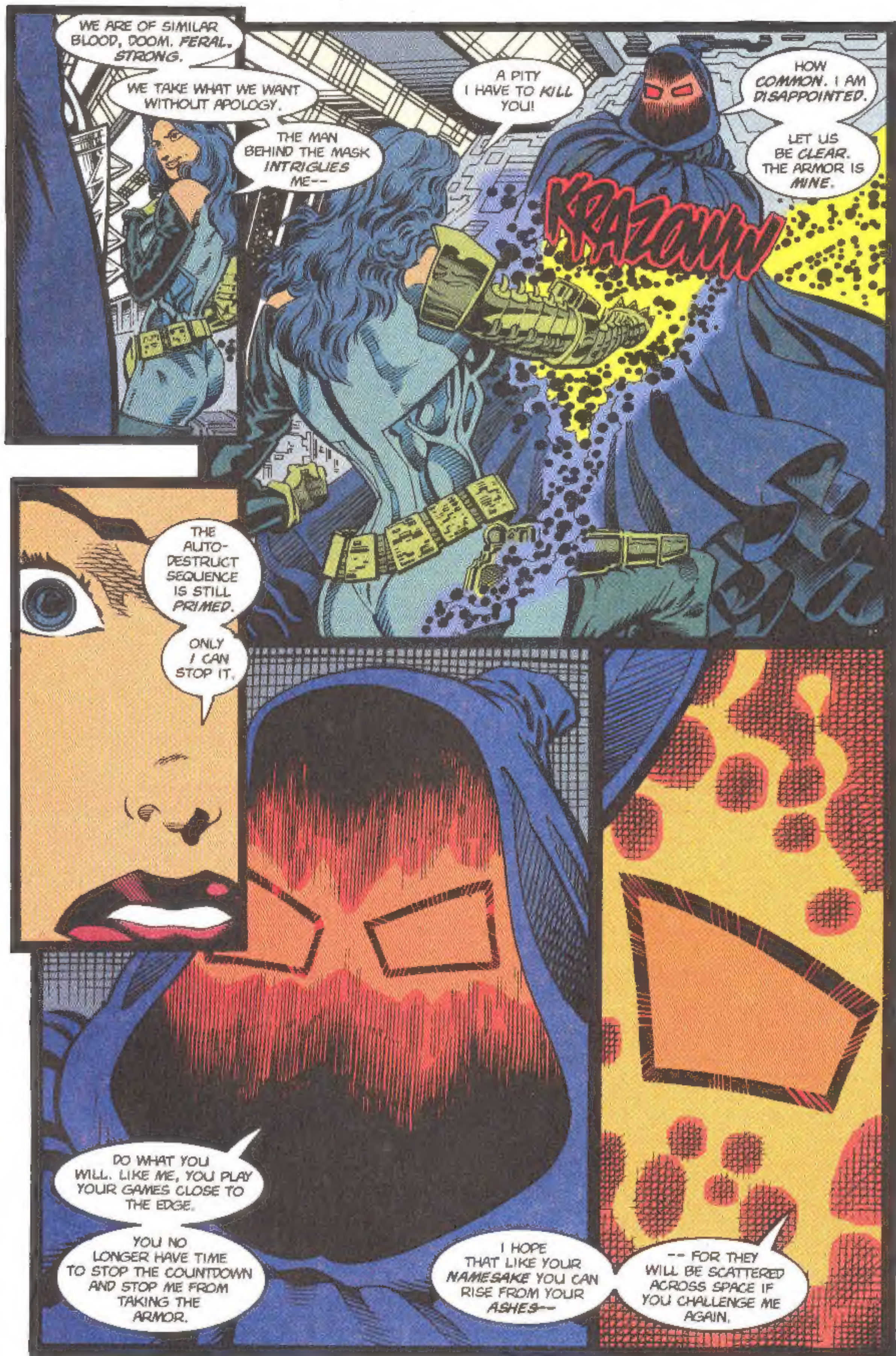
DOOM?



INDEED, MADAM

YOUR PLOY TO GET US OFF THE SHIP MIGHT HAVE EVEN BEEN SUCCESSFUL--

--IF I DID NOT INTEND TO LEAVE WITH RADIAN'S ARMOR AS WELL.



WE ARE OF SIMILAR BLOOD, DOOM. FERAL. STRONG.

WE TAKE WHAT WE WANT WITHOUT APOLOGY.

THE MAN BEHIND THE MASK INTRIGUES ME--

A PITY I HAVE TO KILL YOU!

HOW COMMON. I AM DISAPPOINTED.

LET US BE CLEAR. THE ARMOR IS MINE.

KRAZOWW

THE AUTO-DESTRUCT SEQUENCE IS STILL PRIMED.

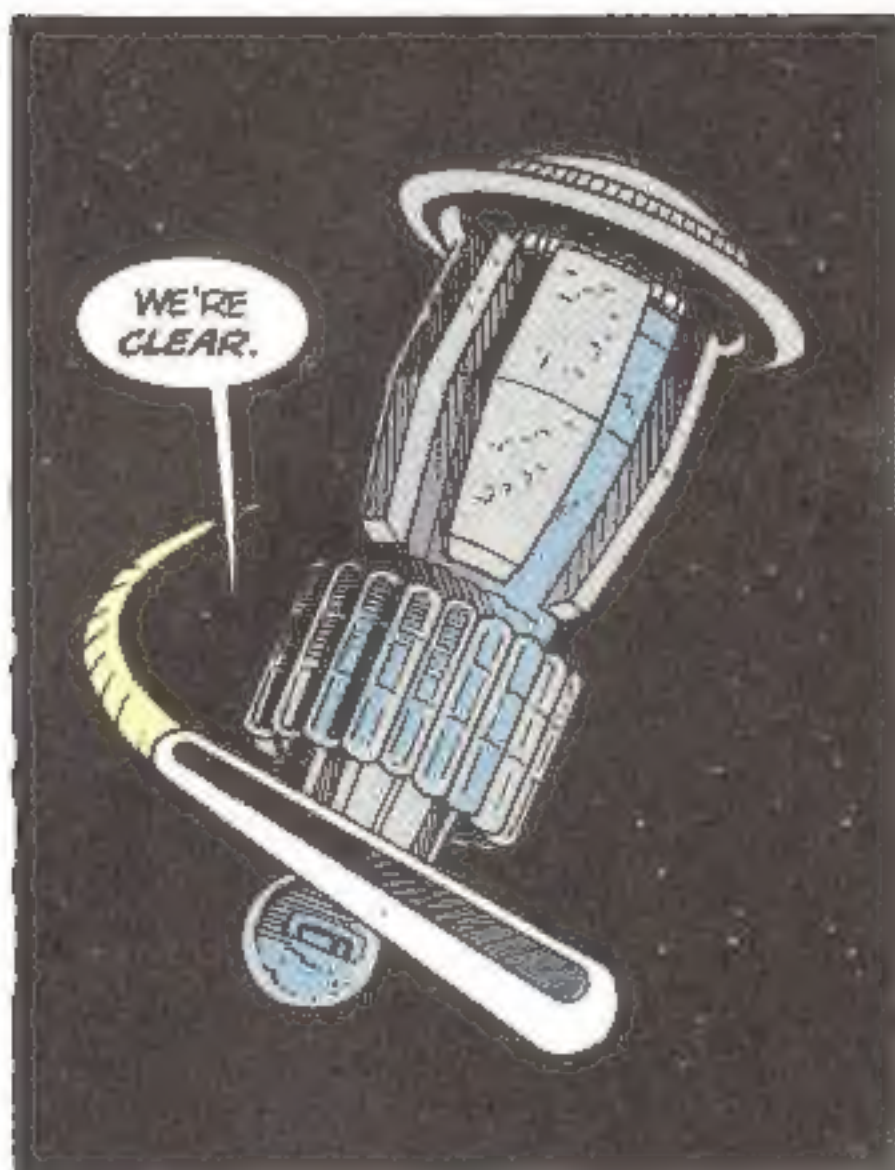
ONLY I CAN STOP IT.

DO WHAT YOU WILL. LIKE ME, YOU PLAY YOUR GAMES CLOSE TO THE EDGE.

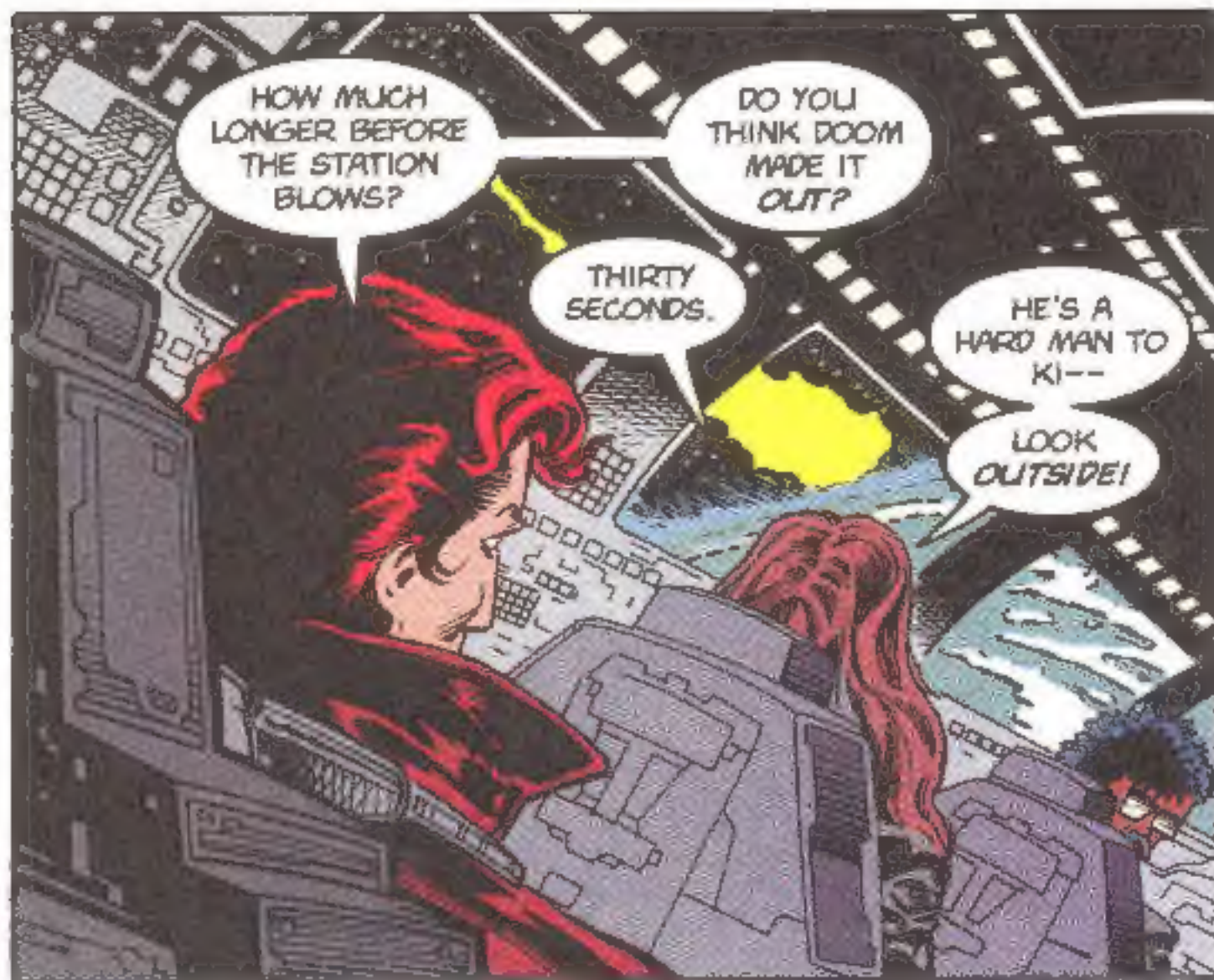
YOU NO LONGER HAVE TIME TO STOP THE COUNTDOWN AND STOP ME FROM TAKING THE ARMOR.

I HOPE THAT LIKE YOUR NAMESAKE YOU CAN RISE FROM YOUR ASHES--

-- FOR THEY WILL BE SCATTERED ACROSS SPACE IF YOU CHALLENGE ME AGAIN.



WE'RE
CLEAR.



HOW MUCH
LONGER BEFORE
THE STATION
BLOWS?

DO YOU
THINK DOOM
MADE IT
OUT?

THIRTY
SECONDS.

HE'S A
HARD MAN TO
KI--

LOOK
OUTSIDE!



THAT
LIGHT!

THE
Y'LESTJA
CALLED RADIAN
"LIGHTCHILD".

PHYSICS
SAYS ENERGY'S
NEVER
DESTROYED--
ONLY RE-
DISTRIBUTED.

MAYBE
FENG HUANG
COULDN'T KILL
RADIAN.

NOTHING
SURPRISES ME
ANYMORE.

TODAY, WE
MET A RACE SO IN
LOVE WITH THE
UNIVERSE THAT
THEY'VE DEDICATED
THEIR EXISTENCE TO
SHARING THEIR
SENSE OF
WONDER--

-- AND WE
RESPOND BY
KILLING... OR
TRYING TO
KILL... THEIR
EMISSARY.

MAYBE
WE'VE MADE IT
THIS FAR AS A
SPECIES BY
ACCIDENT.

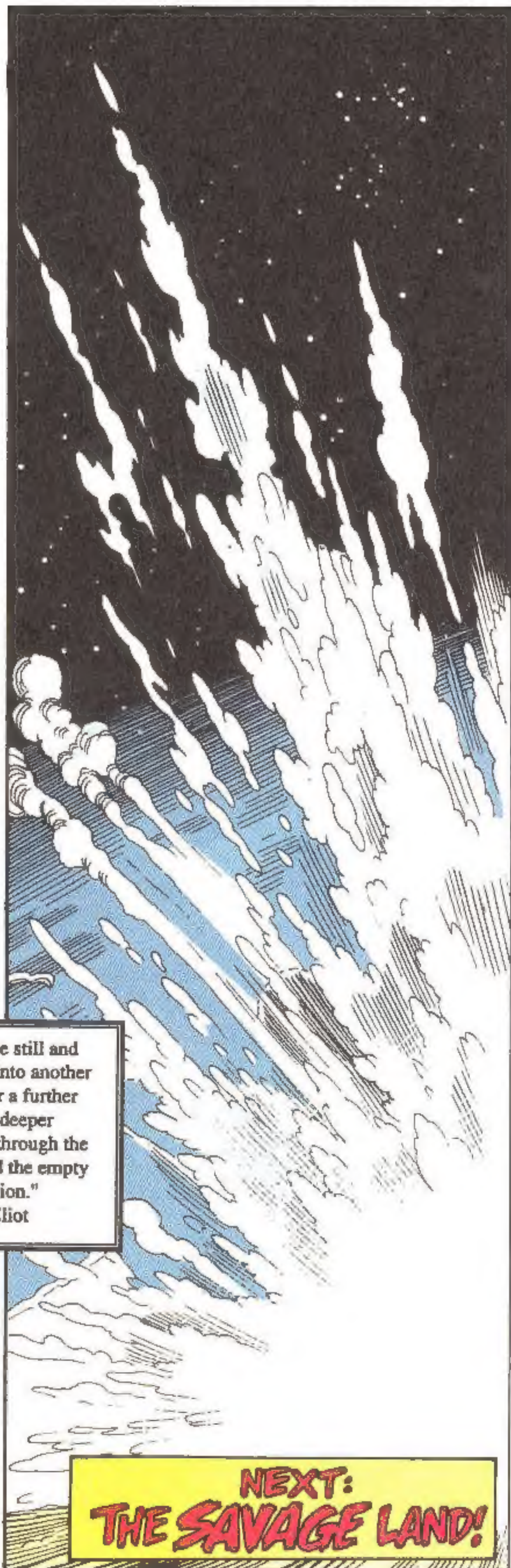
IF WE
DON'T GET OUR
PRIORITIES
STRAIGHT...

"... HOW WILL WE SURVIVE THE
NEXT CENTURY—LET ALONE
THE NEXT MILLENNIUM?"

BADDA BOOM



"We must be still and
still moving into another
intensity for a further
union, a deeper
communion through the
dark cold and the empty
desolation."
T.S. Eliot



**NEXT:
THE SAVAGE LAND!**